

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

INFO USCINCSO

XMT AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 182723

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, ES, HO

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF SEVEN MEETING JULY 22

REFS: A) TEGUCIGALPA 3535, B) MANAGUA 3477, C) STATE 179290

1. COMMITTEE OF SEVEN WAS CONVENED BY CHAIRMAN SEVILLA
SACASA AFTERNOON OF JULY 22 TO CONSIDER SITUATION ON EL
SALVADOR/HONDURAS FRONTIER AND TAKE ACTION ON FIRST OF
TWO TELEGRAMS RECEIVED JULY 21 FROM FONMIN OF HONDURAS.

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FIRST TELEGRAM FROM FONMIN PALMA REQUESTED COMMITTEE OF

SEVEN TO SEND INVESTIGATING TEAM TO AREA. FONMIN BORGONOVO OF EL SALVADOR, AT LAST MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF SEVEN JULY 18, REPORTED ON INITIATIVE TAKEN BY GOES TO INVOLVE THREE GUARANTOR STATES OF SAN JOSE AGREEMENT BUT DID NOT ASK OAS INVOLVEMENT AT THIS TIME.

2. AMBASSADOR CASTILLO ARRIOLA OF GUATEMALA SAID HE HAD AGREED WITH POSITION TAKEN EARLIER THAT THREE GUARANTOR STATES BE GIVEN CHANCE TO DEAL WITH SITUATION FIRST BUT INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS GOVERNMENT THIS AFTERNOON REFER TO GRAVE SITUATION DEVELOPING, FAILURE THUS FAR OF PEACE-KEEPING EFFORTS OF GUARANTOR STATES AND NEED TO SUPPORT ANY INITIATIVE OF OAS TO CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF SITUATION. COSTA RICA REP TOOK SAME POSITION. SEVILLA

SACASA SUGGESTED FORMING SUBCOMMITTEE NOT TO INVESTIGATE PAST INCIDENTS BUT TO AVOID WORSENING OF SITUATION.

3. DECISION TAKEN TO SEND MESSAGE TO FONMINS OF HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR (WITH COPY TO EACH OF GUARANTOR STATES) CALLING ON THEM TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO AVOID FURTHER INCIDENTS AND ANNOUNCING FORMATION OF SUBCOMMITTEE OF COMMITTEE OF SEVEN THAT STANDS READY TO GO TO AREA IF GOOD OFFICES NEEDED. SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSED OF AMBASSADORS AND THEIR ASSISTANTS, MILITARY OR CIVILIAN, OF ARGENTINA, COSTA RICA, GUATEMALA, NICARAGUA AND UNITED STATES. MESSAGE MAKES CLEAR THAT SUBCOMMITTEE WILL ONLY GO IF PARTIES TO DISPUTE AND GUARANTORS OF SAN JOSE AGREEMENT FAIL IN THEIR EFFORTS TO END GRAVE SITUATION ALONG FRONTIER. OBJECT OF MESSAGE IS TO STRENGTHEN HANDS OF FONMINS OF GUARANTOR STATES MEETING IN MANAGUA SATURDAY MORNING AND TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF INTEREST OAS AND COMMITTEE OF SEVEN TAKE IN AVOIDING RENEWED CONFLICT.

4. TEXT OF MESSAGE FOLLOWS: I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN, OVER WHICH I PRESIDE, IS PROFOUNDLY CONCERNED BY THE RECENT INCIDENTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN THE BORDER AREAS OF HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL REPORTS AND INTERNATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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PRESS DISPATCHES. IN FULFILLMENT OF ITS OBLIGATIONS DERIVING FROM RESOLUTIONS OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, THE CHARTER OF THE OAS AND THE RIO TREATY, THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN EXHORTS THE GOVERNMENTS OF SALVADOR AND HONDURAS TO TAKE THE NECESSARY MEASURES TO KEEP PEACE IN THE AREA AND ESPECIALLY IN THE SECURITY ZONE DEFINED BY THE SAN JOSE AGREEMENT. THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN OF THE THIRTEENTH MFN IS HOPEFUL THAT THE GOVERN-

MENTS OF EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SAN JOSE AGREEMENT AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PRESENT ACTIONS OF ITS GUARANTOR STATES, WILL FIND A QUICK SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. AT THE SAME TIME I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A SUB-COMMITTEE, MADE UP OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ARGENTINA, COSTA RICA, GUATEMALA, NICARAGUA, AND THE UNITED STATES, IN ORDER THAT, SHOULD CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE AND IN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF SALVADOR AND HONDURAS, IT WILL BE PREPARED TO TRAVEL TO THE AREA TO TAKE PART IN EFFORTS UNDERWAY TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND SECURITY.

ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, ETC.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE BEST CURRENT ESTIMATE BY AMEMBASSIES TEGUCIGALPA AND SAN SALVADOR OF POTENTIAL FOR MORE INCIDENTS, INCREASED TENSION OR NEW OUTBREAK OF 1969 WAR, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF REF (B). ' ROBINSON

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